



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF HIGHWAY DESIGN

NHDOT Complete Streets Advisory Committee (CSAC) Meeting
Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan Project Advisory Committee (PAC) Draft Minutes of
25 September 2019

Attendees

Alex Belenz - North Country Council

Amanda-Joe W. Paulino - NHDOT Highway Design

Colin Lentz - SRPC (telephone)

Craig Tufts - CNHRPC (CSAC Chair)

Dave Topham - GSW

Elizabeth Strachan - NHDES

Greg Bakos - BWANH (telephone)

Larry Keniston - NHDOT Highway Design

Leigh Levine - FHWA

Maddie Dilonno - SNHPC

Paula Bedard - BWANH

Stephanie Verdile - NHOSI

Sylvia von Aulock - SNHPC

Tim Blagden - Concord Lake Sunapee Rail Trail

Tim Dunn - NHDOT Bureau of Highway Design

NOTES ON BPAC MEETING:

The Committee approved the combined CSAC/PAC Meeting Minutes of [July 24, 2019](#).

Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan Project Advisory Committee update on public outreach

Larry reported on the 6 statewide public meetings completed to date.

- Sept 8 - Dover Farmers Market (completed)
- Sept 15 - Nashua Farmers Market (completed)
- Sept 17 - Keene Library (completed)
- Sept 18 - Lebanon UVLSRPC Office (completed)
- Sept 22 - Littleton Farmers Market (completed)
- Sept 24 - Manchester Library (completed)

Larry reported that 3 upcoming public meetings had been scheduled:

- Sept 25 - Gilford Library
- Sept 28 - Concord Farmers Market (Regional public "meeting-in-a-box" event)
- Oct 2 - Portsmouth Library

(Subsequent to the meeting, Rockingham Planning Commission held an additional afternoon farmers market event in Exeter on October 10.)

Larry demonstrated how the Consultant generally conducts the pedestrian and bicycle transportation planning public outreach with sample maps focused on Rockingham's planning region, a Master Plan Goals board and the "dot activity" boards. Larry walked Committee participants through the public input activities similar to the formula that Alta follows for the public meetings/events identified above.

For the "Top Goals" activity, the Committee contributed the following "Policy," "Infrastructure/Design," "Economic" and "Miscellaneous" suggestions:



NEW HAMPSHIRE
Pedestrian & Bicycle
Transportation Plan



New Hampshire
DOT
Department of Transportation



alta
PLANNING + DESIGN



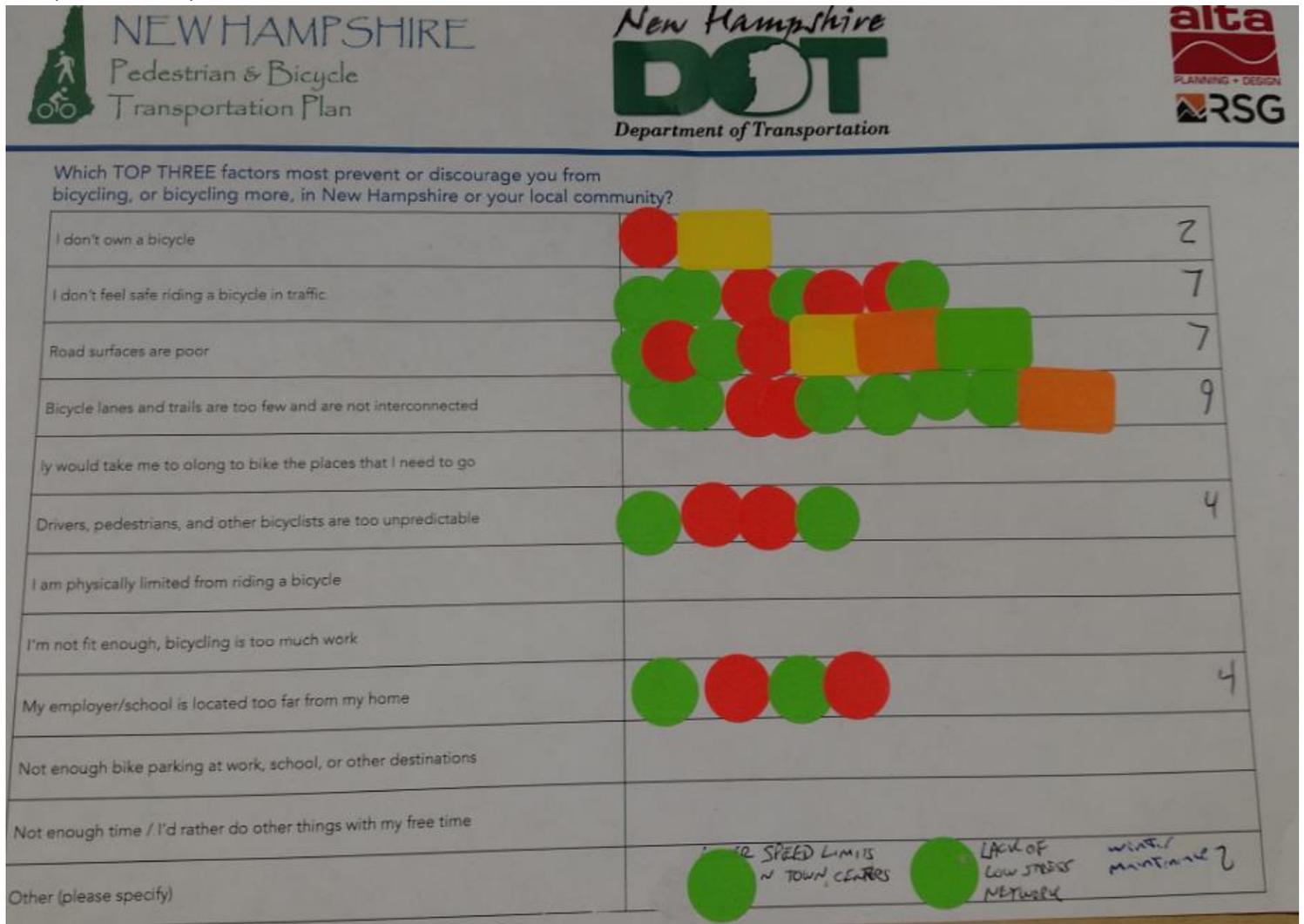
RSG

What should the GOALS for the NH Statewide Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan be?

POLICY		INFRASTRUCTURE / DESIGN	
<p>Private land use practices that support walkability</p> <p>Connect urban centers</p> <p>Statewide Complete streets policy</p> <p>PURB BIKES FOR A LOCAL TRANSPORTATION</p> <p>all methods of road or design features to safe roads/bridges that accommodate bicycles & walkers</p>	<p>POLICY: INCLUDE STRATEGIC ANALYSIS OF BIKE/PED NETWORK IN TRAVEL PLAN (WITH UPDATES EVERY 2 YRS)</p> <p>POLICY: ADOPT COMPLETE STREETS</p> <p>POLICY: HAVE A NETWORK ATTACHED TO DESIGNING THE PLANNING INFRASTRUCTURE</p> <p>Statewide Complete Streets</p> <p>Assistance w/ implementation through municipalities</p> <p>Land Use Boards</p>	<p>Connect rail/trail networks</p> <p>Connect / finish rail trail segment</p> <p>Linneryhact NH</p> <p>Maintenance costs</p> <p>Need to be consistent not allow municipalities</p> <p>Winter Maintenance</p> <p>maintain a minimum road condition</p>	<p>Use bike/ped & complete streets part of every DOT projects.</p> <p>Wide shoulders on every state road</p> <p>provide painted lines that identify center & fog lines that insure safe shoulder space to accommodate bikers & walkers</p> <p>Develop & implement statewide trail plan</p>
<p>Coordinate w/ fellow agencies to embrace connected trail system that will showcase NH's natural beauty</p> <p>Track these enhance tourism</p> <p>ECONOMIC: HAVE DNER LAUNCH A GRANT IN THE BUDGET OF TRAILS FOCUSED ON NOW - MIXED TRAIL USE AND ITS ECONOMIC IMPACT.</p>	<p>Advertising links to Community Centers + Destinations</p> <p>More dedicated money to bike/ped projects</p>	<p>Consider safety impacts of roadway widening/straightening</p>	<p>Promote alternative routes to state highways</p> <p>Education on bike/ped associated w/ license renewal at DMV</p>
<p>ECONOMIC</p>		<p>MISCELLANEOUS</p>	

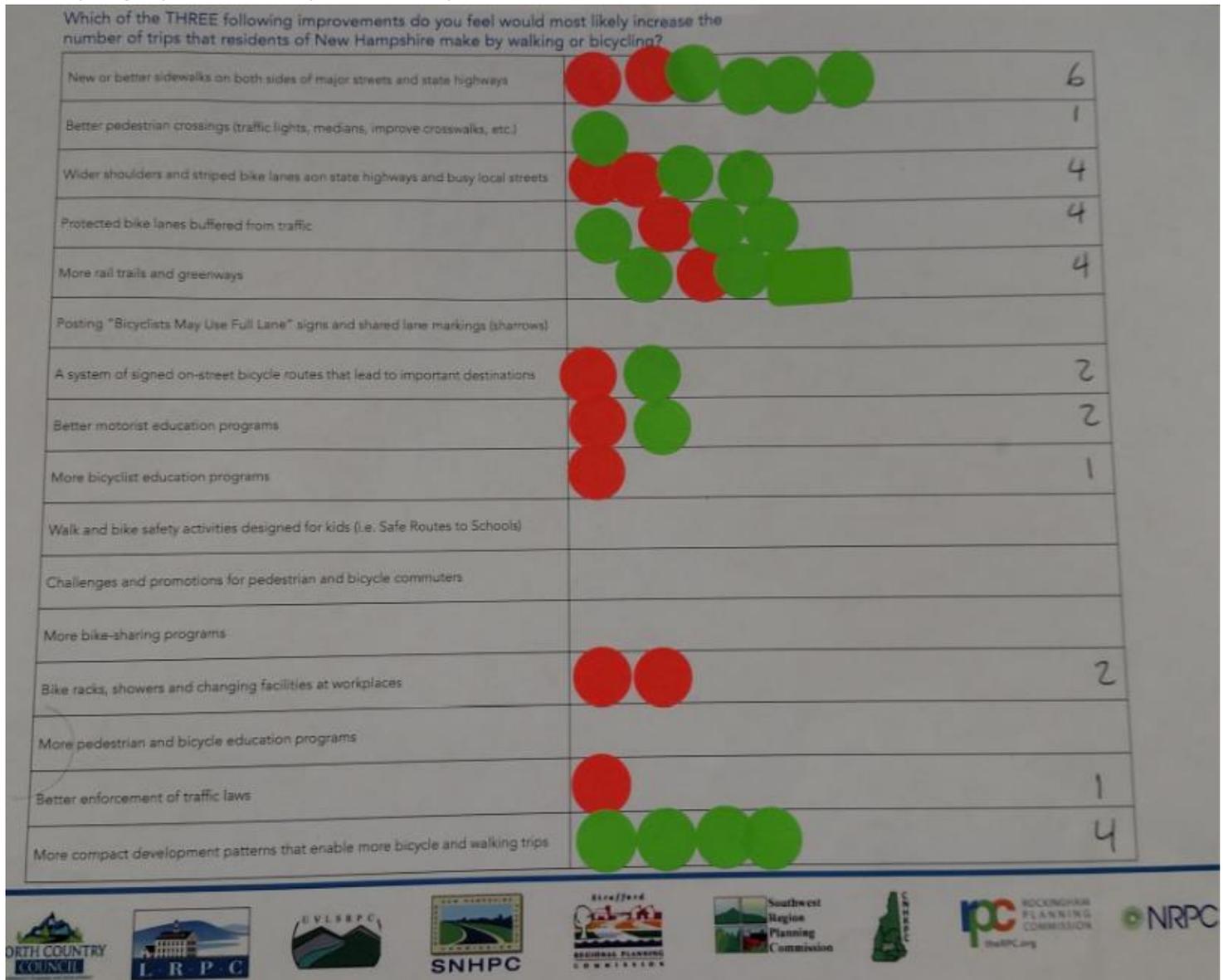
(Subsequent to the meeting, Alta included the Committee’s Top Goals responses for inclusion with the approximately 3000 public responses received statewide.)

The Committee contributed feedback in a modified version of the “top three barriers to walking and bicycling in New Hampshire activity.”



(Subsequent to the meeting, Alta included the Committee’s Top Three Barriers responses for inclusion with the corresponding public responses received statewide.)

The Committee contributed feedback in a modified version of the “top three improvements needed to increase walking and bicycling trips in New Hampshire” activity.



(Subsequent to the meeting, Alta included the Committee’s Top Three Improvements responses for inclusion into the corresponding public responses received statewide.)

Larry showed sample maps (centered in this case around the Rockingham Planning Commission region) used at the public meetings to gather public input about specific locations.

Larry invited attendees to subscribe to the ongoing planning effort, complete an on-line survey, use an interactive map to comment about solutions where pedestrians and bicyclists need additional access, safety and comfort and to publicize the Plan’s on-line opportunities for public feedback through October 15.

Pedestrian Safety PSA

Larry invited meeting participants to continue to share, repost and otherwise leverage through additional channels the available [Pedestrian Safety PSA audio](#), linked to the NHDOT Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/NHDOT/posts/2418074551582806?comment_id=2418536238203304 ,.

Level of Traffic Stress Pilot Update

The project is nearing its completion date requirement (October 1, 2019) and Scott will report further at a subsequent meeting.

The LTS pilot partly extends research work that an earlier project, Plymouth State University's Active Transportation Accounting: A Three-pronged Approach to Developing Metrics for Project Prioritization, Monitoring, Safety Assessment, and Evaluation, began. Larry agreed to link the PSU report to these meeting minutes for convenient Committee access. See [Final Report - June 2019](#) . (See also the [Crowd-sourced Interactive Level of Traffic Stress map](#) developed as part of the earlier research project.)

Legislative Update

Dave reported that:

- HB 683: New regulations for ATVs/off road vehicles. A drone video will help to demonstrate negative impacts of ATV proliferation to the Resources, Recreation and Development Committee in the New Hampshire House of Representatives.
 - HB 148 E-bike bill: effective August 18, 2019.
 - Class 1 E-bike has no throttle – variable pedal assist provides motor assist up to 20 mph
 - Class 2 E-bike has a throttle and works like a Class 1 E-bike when the throttle is off
 - Class 3 E-bike works like class 2 e-bike but can reach speeds of 28 mph before the motor assist cuts out
- For highway purposes, E-bikes in all three classes are defined as bicycles. For trail purposes, trails may have various restrictions regarding E-bikes. (The carriage roads in [Acadia National Park](#) in Maine and [Green Woodlands](#) in Dorchester, NH, for example, recently opened up trails only to Class 1 E-bikes.) The bill updates [NH RSA 265:144](#) (however the text had not yet been revised on line as of 11/19/19). Link to more information more generally about E-bikes at <https://bwanh.org/e-bikes/>.
- SB 185 Rail trail plan update: Bill passed. NHDOT to send out invitations to populate a committee to oversee the planning effort.

STRAVA Training Update (Craig)

Training update took place on Thursday, April 25, 2019 at Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. The Regional Planning Commissions can request, directly from STRAVA, (Haynes Bunn at haynes@strava.com , licenses to use NHDOT's data. Quarterly data becomes available shortly after the conclusion of each quarter.

Bicycle-Friendly Driver Class Information (Paula)

Paula discussed the [League of American Bicyclists Driver Friendly class program](#) that she offers. The 90-minute long class is teaches motorists how to be more aware of bicycle drivers' needs for access and safety. The full class includes a written exam where with a certificate for satisfactory participant performance.

Seacoast Electric Bike Expo “E-bike curious” event

Dave announced the Seacoast Electric Bike Expo [E-Bike curious event](#) to be held in Stratham on October 13. (Subsequent to the meeting, it turned out that the E-bike curious event was successful for the vendors with over 300 people attending. Anne Rugg of [commute SMART SEACOAST](#) later reported that 6 busy vendors helped to host the event. Event attendees included many from the age 50s - 70s group.) The Seacoast Electric Bike Expo proved that similar events may work successfully elsewhere in other regions of the State. Motor assist could be especially helpful in returning aging adults to cycling for utilitarian trips and mitigating the problems of traffic.



“Upper Valley E-Bike initiative”

An ongoing project in the Upper Valley called the [Upper Valley E-Bike initiative](#) uses a research approach to similarly seek to mitigate the problems of traffic congestion through the promotion of E-bikes for commuters whose primary impediment to bicycling is physical endurance.

Items for deferral to/continuance at subsequent meeting Agenda

- [NHDOT Pedestrian and Bicycle Program](#) Review (Craig)
- [LTS Project update](#) – How to use tools for project selection Clarification of “Centrality;” (Colin)
- [2021-2030 Draft Ten Year Plan - Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation \(GACIT\)](#) Meetings Content and Update. Apparent discrepancies between the reported pedestrian and bicycle project element totals by executive council district. Should pedestrian and bicycle elements in projects earn a column? The public input phase of this cycle’s Ten Year planning input phase of the GACIT planning process closes November 12. (Tim)
- Commissioner Sheehan comments on [September 3 NHPR The Exchange](#) - adoption of a policy would create a financial burden on towns (Craig)
- Smart Growth America Seeking Support for a [“Federal Complete Streets bill”](#) (Craig)
- LPA Project Process; Lean review to make LPA less onerous? Municipalities have found it difficult to get the project out and therefore CMAQ funds are redistributed away from potential pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure elements. Do other state transportation agencies have an improved process? (Tim, Leigh & Sylvia)
- Revisit work of Subcommittee on the Collection of Bike Lanes and Trails. NHDOT has posted the document at https://www.nh.gov/dot/programs/bikeped/advisory-committee/documents/Coll_Van_CSAC_102717.pdf. Additional Collection Subcommittee items now housed only in NHDOT internal folders need be made available in order to revisit Collection Subcommittee progress to date. (Craig)

Next Meeting: (Subsequent to the meeting, Larry proposed the next meeting for December 18, 2019 (3rd Wednesday in December due to the Holiday the following week), 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm in the Highway Design Conference Room (Room 211 in the main NHDOT headquarters building). Call-in option will be made available.